

ER-4: Reduce Vertical Separation

Benefits, Performance and Metrics

- Fuel Burn Savings. Fuel burn savings of approximately 2% per cent for US domestic operations. (When RVSM is implemented between FL 290-410, fuel burn savings are estimated to be approximately \$371 million per year for US operators).
- Increased Flight Level Availability. Makes six additional flight levels (for a total of 13) available for operations between FL 290-410. (Current FL orientation schemes applied between FL 290-410 provide seven useable FL's).
- Airspace Capacity. Provides potential increase in sector capacity by enhancing traffic throughput and efficiency within en route airspace.
- Controller Flexibility. Enhances controller flexibility. Provides more options for situations such as weather re-routes and crossing traffic.
- Controller Workload. Reduces controller work load.
- Enhanced Predictability. Enhances predictability of operations by increasing the flight levels available to move aircraft allowing more aircraft to fly at requested flight level.
- Delays. Provides potential to reduce departure delays.